

The Smokehouse

Where Country Hams Hang Out

July 2021

President, Larry Brumett, KN4IV

Vice President, Tom Buchanan KG4KGY

Sec/Treas, Herb Hess, KJ4CMG



MCARC Meeting June 22nd, 2021

The meeting came to order at 7pm in the basement of the City Hall Building located in Glasgow, KY

KF4LDQ made a motion, seconded by N4NRC, to dispense with the reading of the minutes. Motion passed.

KD4SS gave the financial report. He reported \$xxx.xx in the checking account and \$xxxx.xx in the savings accounts. KY4BC made a motion, seconded by W4RRK to accept the treasurer's report. Motion passed.

Committee Reports:

Repeater Committee:
KD4SS talked about a surplus Yaesu Fusion

repeater that the club has. W4RRK has expressed interest in setting up a Fusion repeater in Hart County. W4RRK has been instrumental in setting up the Fusion repeater in the clubroom. KY4BC made a motion, seconded by KG4ABA to give the repeater to W4RRK and setting it up in Hart County. Motion passed.

Still no update on the gravel for the Hwy 63 repeater site. KY4BC will check to see when the gravel might be spread out at the site.

Hamfest Committee: Cave City Hamfest is still on the schedule for July 10th, 2021. KN4IV reported that there are only 2-3 tables left under the pavilion. Discussion ensued about

how to handle the crowd the morning of the hamfest. There will be a group of members meet on Friday afternoon to get tables and finalize the parking and traffic flow issues.

Field Day/Special Event Committee: Field Day is coming up on Saturday June 26th. KY4BC is going to bring his solar trailer. W4RRK is bringing his Yaesu FT-991 and is planning on staying all night. The club will bring 2-3 tables and chairs and other equipment. Meet at the clubroom at 9am to load up equipment before setting everything up at American Legion Park. We will start operating at 1pm local time. Lunch will be pizza and the club will

provide hamburgers, hotdogs, and brats.

Webpage Committee: KN4WLS will update the website to reflect the upcoming Field Day event this weekend.

Old Business: Nothing to report.

New Business: W4RRK talked about setting up a YSF reflector for the club to use. He gave a brief overview of the equipment that is needed to set up a reflector. The club currently uses KK4OVW's hotspot located in Nashville, TN. KY4BC made a motion, seconded by K1CEH to let W4RRK setup a reflector with the KY4X callsign. Motion passed.

KN4IV nominated K4LLT for membership.

No further business to come before the meeting, KN4WLS made a motion, seconded by KY4BC to adjourn. Motion passed. There were 21 members and 1 guest present at the meeting.

Barren County Progress Field Day Article

Ham radio operators from the Mammoth Cave Amateur Radio Club in Glasgow, KY participated in a national amateur radio exercise from 1 PM on Saturday until 1 PM on Sunday, June 26 – 27. The event is ARRL Field Day (www.arrl.org/FieldDay), an annual amateur radio activity organized since 1933 by ARRL, the national association for amateur radio i

Hams from across North America ordinarily participate in Field Day by establishing temporary ham radio stations in public locations to demonstrate their skill and service. Their use of radio signals, which reach beyond borders, bring people together while providing essential communication in the service of communities. Field Day highlights ham radio's ability to work reliably under any conditions from almost any location and create an independent, wireless communications network. Many hams have portable radio communication capability that includes alternative energy sources

such as generators, solar panels, and batteries to power their equipment.

Hams have a long history of serving our communities when storms or other disasters damage critical communication infrastructure, including cell towers. Ham radio functions completely independently of the internet and phone systems and a station can be set up almost anywhere in minutes. Hams can quickly raise a wire antenna in a tree or on a mast, connect it to a radio and power source, and communicate effectively with others.

During Field Day 2020, more than 18,000 hams participated from thousands of locations across North America. A self-study license guide is available from ARRL: *The ARRL Ham Radio License Manual* (www.arrl.org/shop/Ham-Radio-License-Manual) and for [Kindle \(https://read.amazon.com/kp/embed?asin=B07DFSW94G\)](https://read.amazon.com/kp/embed?asin=B07DFSW94G). For more information, go to the Mammoth Cave Amateur Radio Webpage (WWW.KY4X.ORG).

By: Lynn Traylor KG4ABA

Cave City Taiigate Fest

Due to Covid 19 restrictions the Mammoth Cave ARC held it's first tailgate hamfest in the parking lot of the Cave City Convention Center on July 10th with great success, MCARC club members as well hams from other counties and states took part in the fest. On Friday night July 9th hams and friends took part in Ham Jam with several hams gathering for music, fun and food courtesy of Mike Taylor N4MHT. Thanks to who all helped organize fest.



3Y0J Bouvet Island DXpedition Team Hasn't Given Up the Ship

The Daily DX has reported that the 3Y0J DXpedition team is still hoping to have a go at the island in 2023. The DXpedition team had planned to travel to Bouvet via the RV *Braveheart*, owned by Nigel Jolly, K6NRJ.

“Since the cancellation of 3Y0J, we have been working closely with Nigel

Jolly to form a new plan, with a new owner of *Braveheart* and a revised payment plan that enables Nigel Jolly to continue managing *Braveheart* and will keep it available for DXpeditions for years to come,” said the announcement from DXpedition co-leader Paul Ewing, N6PSE. “We are working out the details of this plan and hope to have some very positive news very soon. We have not given up!”

The Intrepid-DX Group announced earlier this month that it has canceled its long-anticipated DXpedition to Bouvet. Jolly told the DXpedition that the *Braveheart* was being sold and he was canceling its contract for the 3Y0J voyage.



Email to ARRL Life Members

To keep member records up to date, ARRL emailed Life Members on June 16 and will be sending a follow-up email in the next few days, asking them to verify their mailing address. Be assured that it is a legitimate request sent

from ARRL. Thank you to all those who responded.

If you need to update your address information, call (860) 594-0200, email membership@arrl.org, or respond to the email you received. If your email client does not recognize the text as a link, you will need to cut and paste it into a web browser to access the verification web page.



Young Caribbean Nation Formalizing Amateur Radio Guidelines and Standards

With a population just north of 71,000, the Caribbean island country of Dominica (J7) boasts a modest but active ham radio population. Given Dominica's vulnerability to hurricanes, the ham radio emphasis often focuses on emergency communication support. In 2017, after Hurricane Maria hit the tiny island, ham radio filled a huge telecommunications gap. Now the country's telecommunications regulator is asking hams to

help formulate new amateur radio guidelines and standards. Dominica's National Telecommunication Regulatory Commission (NTRC) collected comments until July 12 from radio amateurs participating in a "[consultation](#)" (what the US FCC would call a "proceeding") that could lead to a formal and better-documented set of rules and regulations.

"There is limited guidance for those who seek to utilize the telecommunications media for their own personal use, enjoyment, and fulfilment as hobby, as in the case of amateur radio," the NTRC said in the consultation document. "Generally, [amateur radio] is self-regulating, and so the involvement of the telecommunications regulator is minimized. Though the amateur radio clubs generally do their best to provide some level of guidance and support to existing and prospective operators, there is great need for a formal and comprehensive set of guidelines and standards for the operation of Amateur Radio Services in Dominica."

Resources used in developing the draft proposals included ARRL, the FCC's Part 97 amateur radio rules, and the International Telecommunication Union (ITU).

"A primary source for this document was the Code of Federal Regulations (Title 47, Part 97), due to its comprehensiveness and its informal adoption in certain parts by the local amateur radio fraternity," the NTRC said. Specific ARRL resources included *The ARRL FCC Rule Book*; *The ARRL Operating Manual for Radio Amateurs*, and *The ARRL Handbook for Radio Communications*. The regulators also looked at Canada's and Australia's amateur radio rules. The proposals would provide for three license classes — Novice, General, and Advanced — as well as the licensing procedures for each.

The NTRC held a public meeting via Zoom in mid-June to "highlight and clarify important issues" regarding the consultation. NTRC personnel later met with amateur radio club representatives at the NTRC's office. Under Telecommunications Act No. 8 of 2000 and its

associated regulations, the NTRC oversees compliance with all telecommunication rules in Dominica, including amateur radio. The NTRC also manages amateur radio spectrum.

Following the initial comment period, the NTRC will review the comments and subsequently submit the *Revised Draft Amateur Radio Guidelines and Standards* document for the comments on the initial comments received. The NTRC will also review these comments and finalize the policy document, taking all views into consideration, to adopt and publish the *Amateur Radio Guidelines and Standards* document.

Brian J. Machesney, K1LI/J7Y, a frequent visitor to Dominica, has provided considerable guidance and assistance to the amateur radio community in Dominica, especially in the area of emergency and disaster communication. He characterized the NTRC proposals as a "comprehensive documentation of the common-sense practices that have traditionally been followed, with some notable additions.